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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
JOHN J. TOBEN, et al.) Examiner: Larson, Lowell A.
on SEAM CLOSING APPARATUS) Group Art Unit: 3725
Serial No.: 10/668,842)
Filed on: September 23, 2003) (Our Docket No. 6006-0150-1)

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**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 24, 2005, the time for response being extended to June 24, 2005 by the accompanying Petition for One-Month Extension of Time, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the existing rejection in view of the amendments and remarks below.

As indicated in the enclosed form PTO/SB/30, a Request for Continued Examination is also being filed in this case, wherein the present response is the submission required pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Amendments to the claims begin on Page 2.

Remarks begin on Page 8.